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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Venezuela

SUBJECT Union Groupings for Labor - Socony Vacuum
Negotiations

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1. At the talks between Socony Vacuum Oil Company of Venezuela and various syndicates, representatives were present from COSUTRAPET, (red Communist federation), the Comite Pro Federacion Sindical Nacional Petrolera, known as the Comite (blue and white Accion Democratica (AD) groups), and from one black Communist union.
2. COSUTRAPET was represented at the meetings by Luis Beltran Hernandez M., Dr. Fernando Padilla Arteaga, and Hilario Toledo. It represented the following red unions, whose January 1950 Socony membership is shown after the names:

Sindicato de Trabajadores Petroleros (STP)
de los Municipios Simon Rodriguez y
Cantauro (Guico Camp)
STP del Municipio Guanipa (El Tigrito)

150
39

3. The Comite, represented by Alcides Rondon, Moises Gamero, Andres Hernandez Vasquez, Anibal Bastardo, and Dr. Italo Novellino, held powers of attorney from the following Socony syndicates, whose January 1950 memberships are shown:

Sindicato de Obreros y Empleados Petroleros (SOEP)
de El Tigre (Guico Camp)
STP de Buena Vista (Anaco)

60
60

4. The black Communist union, STP de San Joaquin (Anaco), with 147 Socony employees, was represented by Martin Narval, official of the Federacion de Trabajadores del Estado de Anzoategui, and Juan Reyes.
5. The SOEP de Barinas, with 215 Socony members, was not represented. Although classed as an URD brown syndicate, its Claims Chief, Jose Figueroa, was quoted in an interview with the press as saying that most of the members favor its affiliation with the blue Comite, but that URD had gained control of the union.*
6. A new union, Union de Trabajadores Petroleros (UTP) del Distrito Freitas, which has not been legalized, claims 10 Socony members in Anaco and asked to

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appear. The company refused to talk to its representatives. [REDACTED] believed that its membership was composed of URD and black Communist members. The COPEI Union de Trabajadores Organizados de Petroleros y Similares (UTOPS) del Distrito Federal y Distrito Sucre del Estado Miranda also requested to appear, but was denied admittance. Membership figures for it are not known.

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7. The total union membership of Socony of 671 represents fifty per cent of the Bolivar payroll. Recent trends in the Socony camps at Anaco and Guico have been gradual loss of membership by the white unions and a corresponding gain by the red and black Communist groups.

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[REDACTED] Comment: The URD committee, CISPEN, did not communicate with Socony and has not indicated it represented the Sindicato de Obreros y Empleados Petroleros (SOEP) de Barinas, the one Socony group classed by it as URD. The continuance of separate representation of the black Communist unions follows the same pattern as in the Mene Grande Oil Company negotiations, and varies from the collaboration between black and URD expected by Creole officials.

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